



## **CPMR INTERMEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION (IMC)**

*Activity report September 2014-June 2016 and upcoming actions*

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**3. Economic and Social Cohesion**

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**C. Communication, membership and partnerships**

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**2. Territorial Cooperation & Macroregional Strategies (including activities on Migration)**

**3. Economic and Social Cohesion**

**4. Energy & Water**

**C. Communication, membership and partnerships**

## I. SUMMARY OF THE 2014-2016 IMC MANDATE

The 2014-2016 period has been dense of challenges, events and activities for the Mediterranean Regions of the CPMR in an interdependent and changing context at all levels, socio-economic, geopolitics etc. Therefore, IMC regions had the hard task to keep cooperating, while facing several difficulties<sup>1</sup> and developing their planned activities, trying to react to these challenges in a positive way, exploiting their strengths and potential through networking, exchange and capitalization of experiences and actions at advocacy level.



In this complex framework, the Intermediterranean Commission – as a whole with its members - has developed its [global action plan 2014-2016](#) (approved in the first IMC [Political Bureau](#) held in Marseille at the end of 2014) under the guidance of its two **presidencies**. In particular, the Regions **PACA**, with Mr. Michel Vauzelle, elected in Umea’s Plenary in September 2014 and **Rabat-Salé-Kénitra**, with Mr. Mohamed Sadiki, elected Vice-president in Umea and carrying the pro-tempore presidency from January 2016 until June 2016. The action plan, in connection with the previous mandate, included **strategic and sectoral**

**priorities**. The strategic ones have been focused **on four main themes**: promoting the emergence of macro-regional and sea basin strategies in the Mediterranean; pushing the Mediterranean into the global and EU agendas; promoting effective cooperation projects, mobilizing the southern partners; encouraging dialogue between civil societies to promote a Mediterranean citizenship.

The sectoral ones concern thematic aspects for the integrated territorial and maritime development of Regions in the Mediterranean and have been dealt mainly through the current **four IMC Working Groups**, each

one co-ordinated by a tandem of our most active regions. The [action plans](#) of the renewed WGs (“Economic & Social Cohesion”, “Territorial Cooperation and MRs”, “Water & Energy”, “Transport & Maritime Integrated Policies”) are the result of the exercise of merging of the previous existing groups, approved by the Political Bureau in 2014 and the GA, in 2015. All the IMC activities have been developed in constant coordination and synergy with the CPMR global priorities, giving



a special attention to the most important themes or topics related to the Mediterranean.

Several **advocacy and lobbying activities towards EU and national institutions** have been conducted for instance concerning: territorial cooperation and the emerging strategies in the Mediterranean (with a specific attention on the Adriatic Ionian and Western Mediterranean space but in a long term integrated perspective); cohesion, neighbourhood and decentralisation; the integrated maritime policy; transports; efficiency energy, water and climate; migration; among others themes (including encounters with EC commissioners, MEPs, high officers of the EC, UfM or the Council, CoR and Arlem Members etc.) .



**Migration** issues in particular entered strongly in the agenda of activities of the IMC and the CPMR starting from 2014, based on the suggestion of our Commission, that has been trying to react quickly to the humanitarian tragedies, and most pressing urgencies of the territories. The IMC thus participated to all strategic advocacy and technical [activities](#) of the new [CPMR Task force on Migration](#), providing its specific vision and experiences and launched an awareness and solidarity campaign: “We are all Mediterranean”.

Besides several **political debates** on the major topics concerning the Mediterranean challenges and joint solutions took place in Marseille, Nafplio, Rome, Venice producing [road maps and political documents](#) that have been widely disseminated to all relevant targets.

<sup>1</sup> e.g. migration issues and their impacts on the ground, terrorism attacks and consequences of conflicts in the Mediterranean, political turnover and elections, effect of economic crisis, evolution of EU and Euromed Policies...

The IMC during this biannual mandate also developed several relevant **EU Projects** as [MarInA-Med COM&CAP](#) that contributed to the work towards a maritime integrated approach and the capitalization of 13 Med Interreg projects on themes like: environmental pressures, drivers and trends in the basin, promotion of maritime clusters, blue energies, smart



ports and air pollution related to maritime transport, sustainable and fishing tourism etc. This project with its many [capitalization and dissemination events](#) (8) that gathered hundreds of different stakeholders in a single year (often organized back to back with IMC statutory events), was the perfect example on how to combine project and lobbying dimension in a multilevel governance and multi-actor frame, opening clear opportunities for further cooperation in the maritime field.



Several other projects proposals were developed. Moreover, **in the last part of 2015 and first of 2016** the IMC and its regions concentrated their efforts on the preparation and support of **many (21) new EU project proposal** for the following EU programmes: Med Interreg (Modular and Horizontals), ADRION Interreg, Blue careers (EASME-DG MARE), DAER (Europeaid), AMIF (DG Home) etc. The IMC participated mainly as partner and residually as associate or potential sub-contractor.



**Many IMC regions participated directly** (often leading the projects) and all the members will be involved through the IMC CPMR in case of approval. These projects, that represent all together a demand of more than 20 Million euros for the involved consortia, are conceived as a “win win” cooperation with the EU cooperation programmes and the IMC CPMR, as they propose activities in line with both their priorities and our global and sectoral working group plans. Most of the projects, if selected, will start between the end of 2016 and the beginning of 2017. A [full report on the new proposals and future perspectives](#) can be consulted on the IMC web site.

What is also important to note is that the IMC acted also as a **catalyzer and disseminator of more than 50 proposals arising from its regions** or external partners, searching for the most appropriate counterparts in order to set up solid consortia (without counting necessarily with the direct involvement of the IMC itself). Towards the future, the IMC is trying to involve more and more the territorial players of the southern and eastern rim of the Mediterranean both in projects and in its network as full members. This is clear in the frame of the initiatives concerning capacity building and territorial integrated development linked to Platforma and the neighborhood south or the project ideas under conception for future ENI CBC Med or Europeaid calls.



Last but not least, and beyond project based cooperation, the IMC was very present in the EU and EUROMED scene, participating in lots of transnational **events** and coordinating with its wide network of **external partners**. In particular, defining and implementing partnerships and memorandum of understandings with important organizations such as : the Union for the Mediterranean and the ARLEM, The Center for Mediterranean Integration, Med Cities, Arco Latino, the

Mediterranean Commission of UCLG, MED PAN, ASCAME, UNIMED and many others Universities and Centers of Research. In this frame it is to note as good example of cooperation, the inclusion of the CPMR as permanent observer in the UfM Working Group on Blue Economy which was approved by the States in 2016 and will amplify the opportunities of cooperation in marine and maritime fields at basin level.



In the following pages, we have included more details about the IMC activities per type and Working Group, from September 2014 to June 2016 and future perspectives. The IMC CPMR Secretariat warmly thanks all the IMC Presidencies, the Working Groups Co-Presidencies and Task force leaders, as well as all the member regions that contributed to the successful actions of the organization. We will keep working hard in order to improve our efficiency and influence in the Mediterranean basin.

## II. MAIN ACTIVITIES (Detailed report - September 2014 / June 2016)

### A. Internal organization and institutional meetings

- **Plenary meeting of the Intermediterranean Commission** (Umeå - 24 September 2014)
  - Balance of the previous mandate 2012-2014
  - Election of the new President and the new Political Bureau for the period 2014-2016
  - Internal issues-calendar
  - Contribution to the Final Statement of the CPMR
- **Political Bureau of the Intermediterranean Commission** (Marseille - 10 December 2014)
  - Approval of the Intermediterranean Commission global action plan and the reorganization of the Intermediterranean Commission Working Groups
  - Debate and approval of the Intermediterranean Commission positions on Migrations (including the request of setting up a CPMR Task force on Migration), Water, Climate (joint position with COM MED UCLG)
  - Update of the road map on macro-regional and sea basin strategies in the Mediterranean
  - Internal issues and calendar
- **Enlarged management committee CPMR** (Brussels - 12/13 January 2015)
- **Coordination meeting with the Presidency, the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-presidency and the delegate for macro regional and sea-basin strategies** (Barcelona - January 2015)
- **CRPM Political Bureau** (Nantes - 27 February 2015)
  - Participation of the IMC President in the debate on Cohesion policy
  - Following of the rest of debates
- **Meeting of the technical representatives of the Intermediterranean Commission Political Bureau** (Barcelona - 20 March 2015)
  - Update on the definition of the action plans of the new 4 Intermediterranean Commission Thematic Working Groups (integrating some specific Task Forces)
  - Preparation of the General Assembly 2015 in Nafplio (Greece) based on the key principles and priorities included in the new [Intermediterranean Commission Action Plan 2014-2016](#)
  - Calendar and other issues
- **CPMR Political Bureau** (Crete - 12 June 2015)
  - Organization, moderation of the debate on migration and presentation of the “We are all Mediterranean” campaign
  - Presentation of the Intermediterranean Commission political position on the review of the White Paper on Transport
  - Following of the rest of debates
- **General Assembly of the CPMR Intermediterranean Commission** (Nafplio – 2/3 July 2015)
  - Political debates on Migration, Cultural Dialogue, Med Citizenship, Youth Employment, Mobility, Entrepreneurship, Social and Solidarity Economy, Macro-Regions and Sea Basin Strategies (boost the emerging strategies starting from the maritime strategy in the Western Med).
  - Approval of Final Declaration and the Political Positions of Marseilles, Presentation and endorsement of the Policy paper of MarInA-Med
  - MoU with the Centre for Mediterranean Integration (CMI - The World Bank)
  - Ratification of Intermediterranean Commission Action plan and the 4 WG AP, Internal issues (calendar, update and strategy for cooperation projects, new memberships etc.)
- **Coordination meeting Presidency-Secretariat** (Marseille – 22 September 2015)
  - Preparation of the Plenary in Florence and the Bureau in Rabat
  - Update and coordination on strategic activities and projects
- **Coordination meeting with the Presidency and the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-presidency** (Barcelona – 27 October 2015)

- Preparation of the Plenary in Florence and the Bureau in Rabat
- Update and coordination on strategic activities and projects
- **Plenary meeting of the Intermediterranean Commission** (Florence – 4 November 2015)
  - Activity report and perspectives
  - Internal issues-calendar
  - IMC contribution to the Final Declaration of the CPMR
- **CPMR General Assembly** (Florence - 4/6 November 2015)
  - Participation in several Task Force on Migration, Macro-Regions, EUSAIR and GA's session on Migration among others.
- **Meeting of the Political Bureau** (Rabat - 26 November 2015)
  - Meeting exceptionally opened to all IMC Members, the new Moroccan regions and the members of UCGL MED COM.
  - Political debates on: decentralization in the MED and decentralized cooperation; the new migration and neighbourhood policies
  - Approval of a final declaration
  - Internal issues (including projects and calendar).
  - Complementary activities: seminar on quality of public services the 25/11 and Political Council of the MED Commission of UCLG the 26/11 in the morning)
- **Enlarged internal management committee of CPMR General Secretariat** (Brussels – 21 and 22 January 2016. Participation of IMC Secretariat)
- **CPMR Political Bureau** (Holland, 19 February 2016. Participation of IMC Greek Vice-Presidency/Secretariat)
  - Participation in several debates on maritime issues, transport, speakers' corner.
  - Following of the rest of debates
- **CPMR Political Bureau** (Kotka, June 2016. Participation of IMC Greek Vice-Presidency/Secretariat)
  - Participation in several debates on cohesion, migration, maritime issues, transport and neighbourhood connections.
  - Following of the rest of debates

## B. Key political and technical activities by theme (Events, projects, etc.)

### **1. Transport & Integrated Maritime Policy**

- III Forum on CEF Corridors (Brussels - October 2014)
- 1st MarInA-Med COM&CAP seminar on fisheries in the Adriatic-Ionian basin in Termoli ( 29/30 October 2014)
  - [Main conclusions](#)
- Participation/contribution to MSSD review meeting in Sophia Ant. (19/21 November 2014)
- IV Forum on CEF Corridors in Brussels (November 2014)
- Meeting with Eurisy on geospatial and maritime information in Bari (20/21 November 2014)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> MarInA-Med COM&CAP seminar on blue energies in Marseilles (10/11 December 2014)
  - [Main conclusions](#)
- Contribution/Participation to the Intergroup Transport of the CPMR in Brussels (23 January 2015)
- [Mid-Term conference](#) of the project MarInA-Med and Steering Committee held in Brussels (3/5 March 2015)
- Presentation meeting on the updated COASTGAP [Joint Action Plan on “Developing conditions for the Blue Growth in the Med”](#) (linked to the Bologna Charter) to the relevant DGs of the EC in Brussels (23 March 2015)
- Meeting of the IMC WG on Transport and Integrated Maritime Policy in Málaga (13 April 2015)

- ➔ Discussion on the new action plan and in particular on Transport: the participation in the Forums of the corridors, the review of the White Paper on Transport, Accessibility issues, The MOs, new projects, etc.
- Co-organization of MarInA-Med COM&CAP event on smart ports and accessibility in Málaga (14 April 2015)
  - ➔ Main [conclusions](#)
- Participation on behalf of MarInA-Med in the Interact workshop on EU territorial cooperation in the field of maritime affairs held in Málaga (15 April 2015)
- Participation on behalf of MarInA-Med COM&CAP in the CPMR Seminar on Accessibility with the Intermediterranean Commission Members, in Málaga (16 April 2015)
- CPMR Maritime Working Groups with the participation of Intermediterranean Commission Members, held in Brussels (21/22 April 2015)
- Synergies with the Working group of the Union for the Mediterranean on Transport and bilateral meetings with the different areas of the UfM in Barcelona (28 April 2015)
- Participation and co-organization of [MarInA-Med COM&CAP final conference](#) on the challenges for the IMP in the MED and Steering committee (Barcelona – 25/27 May 2015)
  - ➔ Presentation of the final draft Policy Paper
- Stakeholder conference of the UfM in view of the ministerial on Blue Economy (in the frame of the EMD in Athens - 27 May 2015)
- [IMC answer](#) to the consultation on the White paper on Transport (12 June 2015)
- Large dissemination of the [MarInA-Med Policy Paper](#) on an integrated approach for maritime issues (June-November 2015) and participation to consultations of DG MARE on training and mobility in the field of the blue economy.
- Participation of IMC Regions in the Conference on Blue Investments organized by CPMR and DG MARE (22 September 2015 onwards)
- Participation in the CPMR Intergroup on Transport in Brussels (15 September 2015)
- Synergies with events of COP 21 in Paris concerning Bologna Charter and adaptation to climate change in coastal areas (October 2015)
- Conception and final set-up of 2 new horizontal projects in the frame of the calls of the MED INTERREG Programme on Innovation & Blue Growth and on Environment protection and possibly implementation (presentation of concept note in January 2016 and full application in June 2016)
- Participation in the conference on maritime investment organized back to back with CPMR PB in Haarlem (February 2016)
- Participation and contribution to all the four collaborative labs for the launch of the Western Med initiative (Rome, Marseille, Barcelona, Tunis) on sustainable tourism, marine and maritime innovation, transport and MSP, governance (March 2016)
- Participation in EC high level conference on Funding for tourism and launch of FEMP 2016 Calls in Brussels (5 April 2016)
- Participation of IMC members in CPMR maritime meetings and SEARICA Conference in Bruxelles (18-20 April 2016)
- Participation in the Rome workshop of DG Mare on the networking of Mediterranean Maritime Institutes (22 April 2016)
- Co-organization and active participation in the Bologna Charter Coordination board gathered in Rome and in the international event of the National Coordination Board for Coastal Erosion organized by the Italian Ministry of environment-MATTM (28-29 April 2016)
- Conception of new projects in the frame of open and future calls and for UfM labelling (April-June 2016, e.g. on the Bologna Charter themes)
- Active participation of IMC regions and Secretariat in workshops organized during the European Maritime Days in Turku (12-13 May 2016)
- Synergies with UfM for the implementation of the UfM declaration on Blue Economy (April-June 2016)
- Participation of IMC members (Gozo and Catalonia) in a CPMR delegation that encountered Commissioner Vella in the Azores for debating on the future of IMP and synergies (June 2016)

- Synergies with events of MED COP 22 in Tanger and participation with the regions in the pilot committees for its organization and the consultation (April, May, June 2016)

## **2. Territorial Cooperation & Macroregional Strategies (including activities on Migration)**

- Meeting on the ARLEM Capacity building project in Brussels (25 September 2014)
- ARLEM ECOTER Commission meeting in Málaga (20 October 2014)
  - ➔ Discussion on the Migration report and the road map for MRS-SBS and a Cohesion Policy in the MED
- [Med cooperation days](#) (Roma -10/12 November 2014)
  - ➔ Joint event with Platforma,
  - ➔ III COM&CAP seminar MarInA-Med
  - ➔ Final conference of COASTGAP project
- EUSAIR kick-off event and first informal steering committees in Brussels (18 November 2014)
- EESC conference on Macro-Regions in Brussels (26 November 2014)
- Med Week of Economic Leaders in Barcelona (26/28 November 2014)
- ITAN ESPON capitalization conference in Barcelona (27 November 2014)
- Political Council of the MED Commission of UCLG in Marseilles (11 December 2014)
- Next Med: annual event of ENI CBC Med Programme in Rome (12 December 2014)
- Plenary Meeting of the ARLEM 2014
  - ➔ Renewal of the ARLEM PB and discussion on ARLEM Reports (Antalya – 14/15 December 2014)
- Exploratory meetings with CMI, ANIMA, OCEMO (14/15 January 2015)
- Meeting of a IMC Political and technical delegation (Presidency , 1<sup>st</sup> VP and delegate for MRs-SBs) with the Secretary General of the Union of the Mediterranean in Barcelona (January 2015)
  - ➔ Discussion on political priorities
  - ➔ Brainstorming for future partnerships in projects
- Annual Event of the Med Spring Project in Berlin (23/24 February 2015)
- Meeting of the IMC WG on Territorial Cooperation and Macro Regional Strategies in Barcelona (20 March 2015)
  - ➔ Discussion on the new action plan addressing the road map for the emerging macro-regional and sea basin strategies, the European Neighbourhood Policy, Migration issues, ETC projects and programmes in the Mediterranean region
- Final Capitalization Event of the ECT Med Programme in Brussels (24/25 March 2015)
  - ➔ Presentation of the experience of MarInA-Med COM&CAP and taking stock form other experiences
- Political Council and Steering Committee of Platforma in Brussels (9/10 April 2015).
  - ➔ Set-up of the forthcoming activities in the frame of the strategic partnership and in the frame of the Neighbourhood policy south in particular
- Kick-off of the Task Force Migrations of the CPMR (27 April 2015)
- Bilateral meeting and press conference on Migration PACA-Sicily in Palermo (21 April 2015):
  - ➔ Open letter to the EU Council
- IMC meeting on Migration with Med Regions in Palermo (18/19 May 2015):
  - ➔ Launch of the campaign "[We are all Mediterranean](#)" and exchange of best practices
- Meeting with IMC Presidents and the President of the EU Parliament, Martin Schulz on Migration in Strasbourg (20 May 2015)
  - ➔ Support to the campaign/petition from the President of the EP
- Contribution/amendments of the IMC Regions to the CoR resolution on Migration (May-July 2015)
- COPPEM conference on Migrations in Palermo (8 June 2015)

- Monitoring of the Neighborhood Policy and ARLEM activities, including a future ARLEM-UfM project on capacity building in the field of integrated urban development in the south Med (June 2015).
- Constant networking for the presentation of new projects in 2015-2016 and with partner networks for new synergies (June-September 2015)
- Support to the MEP's Giuffrida proposal for a preparatory action for a Med Macro Region (iter already started in June 2015 and classed C in July by the EC)
- INTERREG Med kick-off events and seminar on EU Med networks in Marseille (22-24 June)
  - ➔ Participation and conception of new projects, networking with potential partners for new opportunities of cooperation
  - ➔ Presentation of MarInA-Med COM&CAP experience to other networks and fostering of synergies with INTERREG MED Technical Secretariat and other networks
- Drawing-up of a response on behalf of CPMR to the consultation on the new EU Neighborhood Policy based on IMC Members contributions (30 June 2015 and validation by the IMC General Assembly)
- Synergies with EEAS in Brussels (meeting of the IMC President with the Secretary General the 7 July 2015)
- Monitoring of the EU Neighbourhood policy south (recommendations concerning EC Communication of November 2015 included in the declaration of the IMC PB in Rabat)
- Participation in the launch event of the Interreg Med call for horizontal projects in Marseille (22 November 2015)
- Participation in the GA of the Euro-Region "Pirineos-Mediterráneo" in Palma de Maiorca (7 October 2015)
- Meeting of Political representatives of CPMR and its IMC , CCRE, EUROCITIES on Migration at the EP for Discussion and demands of Regions and local authorities to EU institutions, in Brussels (14 October 2015)
- Participation in the TF on Migration of CPMR meetings and contribution to the debates in Brussels (14 October 2015)
- Participation in the seminar on the EUSAIR organized by Region Emilia Romagna during the Open Days in Brussels (15 October 2015)
- Synergies with ARLEM Commission for sustainable territorial development and participation of the IMC Vice Presidency in the meeting in Brussels (26 October 2015)
- Synergies with the conference of the Italian Senate (Commission for EU Policies) on "New paradigms for EUROMED cooperation held in Florence (26 October 2015)
- Scouting of opportunities for future EU cooperation projects to be submitted under several Mediterranean cooperation programmes etc. and circulation among the members and external stakeholders of 50 partnership search/project proposals in the frame of the first calls (July-October 2015)
- Participation in the seminar a sea of challenges in the Adriatic-Ionian Area in Bologna (17 November 2015)
- Participation in UCLG MED COM seminars in Rabat on quality of public services (25-26 November 2015)
- Participation in the launch conference of ADRION Programme in Bologna (December 2015)
- Participation in MEDSPRING Annual Meeting and External Advisory Board Meeting in Tunis (18-19 February 2016)
- Participation and dissemination of Centre for Mediterranean Integration meetings on energy (December 2015 and May 2016)
- Participation of IMC VP, Secretariat and members in VII ARLEM Plenary in Nicosia (January 2016)
- Monitoring of ARLEM Capacity building project proposal in connection with Med Cities (January-June 2016)
- Synergies and meetings with EEAS delegations in Med Partner Countries (delegation in Morocco in November 2015, delegation in Tunisia in February 2016)
- Bilateral meetings with the Sousse and Monastir Governorates in Tunis (18-19 February 2016)
- Participation and contribution to all CPMR Task force activities in 2016 (e.g meeting in Brussels in February 2016 and session on MIPEX-REG)

- Participation in the General Assembly of Arco Latino held in Barcelona (March 2016)
- Participation and contribution to all the collaborative labs for the launch of the Western Med initiative (Rome, Marseille, Barcelona, Tunis) on sustainable tourism, marine and maritime innovation, transport and MSP, governance (March 2016)
- Contribution to the PRIMA consultation of the EC (April 2016)
- Contribution to Platforma position on Neighbourhood policy and Steering committee works (April 2016)
- Participation in the event for selected projects (1<sup>st</sup> phase) of the call for horizontal projects of the Interreg MED Programme (Marseille – 26 April 2016)
- Participation in the conference of Region Tuscany on migrants and health in Brussels (6 April 2016)
- Participation in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Fermed EU Core Net Cities Tribune in Malaga (13 April)
- Participation in the 3<sup>rd</sup> interinstitutional Med Spring Meeting on mobility held in Bari (27 April 2016)
- Contribution and participation in the Steering Committee held in Barcelona of the Forum of Local and Regional Authorities of the Med to be organized in Sousse in 2016 (9 May 2016)
- Participation in the EUSAIR stakeholder Forum in Dubrovnik (12-13 May 2016)
- Participation and contribution to the Sector Alliance meeting for Transport & Logistics organized by Ascame in the frame of the SIL in Barcelona (7-8 June 2016)
- Sousse participation on behalf of IMC in the CPMR conference organized in Brussels by Bask country with Platforma on integrated territorial partnerships and SDGs (14 June 2016)
- Synergies and participation with the CPMR Adriatic-Ionian Task force in Brussels (15 June 2016)
- Contribution to the setting up, participation and support to the presentation of 2 projects proposals on development, SDGs and migration for the DEAR Call of Europeaid (June 2016)

### **3. Economic and Social Cohesion**

- MedNet event on youth inclusion organized by Tuscany in San Rossore/Tuscany (23/24 September 2014)
- Drafting of the action plan of the new IMC WG and first exploratory meetings via Video Conference (January-February 2015)
- Set-up of a Vasco da Gama spin-off project for the Mediterranean to be submitted for the labelling of the Union for the Mediterranean and to the next calls for proposals of the cooperation programmes of the basin (several bilateral meetings with potential partners, the UfM, contacts & work on the dossier, preparation of concept notes etc. – February/October 2015)
- Set-up of a Task force on Sustainable Tourism and Culture (Teleconference - February 2015 and further meetings by skype and during the IMC General Assembly of Nafplio)
- IMC CPMR and Arco Latino joint Workshop on Tourism (Florence - 12 May 2015) and discussion on future projects
- MarInA-Med [COM&CAP event on Tourism](#) (Florence - 13 May 2015)
- Participation in the CPMR Seminar on Sustainable Coastal and Maritime Tourism – EUSAIR in Crete (12 June 2015)
- First meeting of the Working Group in Nafplio (2 July 2015) with discussion on the new Action Plan and its main axis, TF on Tourism and Vasco da Gama, Synergies among youth inclusion platforms, debate on the cohesion policy financial allocations in view of the mid-term review
- Launch of IMC Survey on Social and Solidarity Economy (July-October 2015)
- Support to the setting-up and presentation of 5 projects proposals for the MED INTERREG programme on Sustainable Tourism together with the Lead Partner Regions : Crete, Region East Trace and Macedonia, Tuscany, Catalonia, Marche (June-November 2015)
- Preparatory meeting with DGs MARE-GROW for the EU Med Dialogue with cruise operators in Brussels (15 September 2015)
- Participation of IMC members in Regional Med Cruise Dialogue in Olbia (14 October 2015)
- Participation in the Final conference of the ENPI CBC project MEET on Eco-tourism in Barcelona and bilateral meetings with project partners (10 December 2015)
- Elaboration of a draft report on Social and Solidarity Economy and synergies with external specialized stakeholders (November 2015 – June 2016)

- Participation in Ecorys focus group on maritime training in the Mediterranean (November 2015)
- Participation in the EDILE project international conference at the UfM (March 2016)
- Contribution to the final conference of VdG TGSMT project at the EESC in Brussels (March 2016)
- Participation in EMedia Open days project event organized by Unimed in Barcelona (18 April 2016)
- Setting-up and presentation with Technocampus Matarò and Sardinia of two projects proposals for the Blue careers call (March-May 2016)

#### **4. Energy & Water**

- Meeting of the former IMC Water Group in Alicante (23 October 2014)
  - ➔ Discussion, exchange of best practices and future projects on Water
  - ➔ Approval of the policy position on the Water Framework Directive
- Final event Marie project in the World Sustainable Buildings Forum 2014 in Barcelona (29/30 October 2014)
  - ➔ Chairing of a session on the multilevel governance model for Efficiency Energy in Med Buildings
  - ➔ Participation in the final event
- Meeting of the former IMC Renewable Energy and Efficiency Energy Group in Barcelona (30 October 2014)
  - ➔ Discussion on the possibility to set-up a task force on Energy Renovation in Med Buildings
- Final event of the project ELIHMED at the European Parliament held in Brussels (November 2014)
  - ➔ Participation in a session on Efficiency Energy in Med Buildings and networking with key stakeholders
- Co-organization with the COM Med of UCGL and participation in the meeting on climate of the officer and the elected representatives of the Med local and regional authorities, in Marseilles (11 December 2014)
  - ➔ Participation of the Intermediterranean Commission members in the debates
  - ➔ Joint elaboration of a political declaration on Climate
- Participation in a webinar on Solutions for water Efficiency in Arid Countries (Online - 14 April 2015)
- Participation in a seminar on Water in Europe – funding new projects, in Murcia (7 May 2015)
- Meeting of the IMC WG on Water & Energy in Barcelona (21 May 2015)
  - ➔ Discussion on the new action plan implying: New exchange of Best practices and political positions on Water (Water Framework Directive implementation and Water Issues in Arid territories) and the set-up of a Task force for the Energy Renovation in Med Buildings and new possible projects in this field.
- Support to the MED Cop 21 conference in PACA (February-May 2015) and participation in the event in Marseille (4/5 June 2015)
- Synergy with the Seminar on Funding Schemes for Efficiency Energy in Buildings organized by EASME during Open Days held in Brussels (14 October 2015)
- Support to the setting-up and presentation of a MED project proposal for INTERREG MED programme on Efficiency Energy in MED public buildings (SHERPA) together with the Lead Partner Catalonia and other MED regions (July-November 2015)
- Participation in the SURE project (CIUDAD Programme) conference on Sustainable Energy Action Plans in the MED – Covenant of Mayors (26/29 January 2016)
- Participation in the CPMR response to the consultation led by the European Commission on the Preparation of a new Renewable Energy Directive for the period after 2020 (February 2016)
- Participation of the Valencian co-presidency in several EU fora on water (2015-2016)
- Support and synergies with events of MED COP 22 in Tanger and participation with the regions in the pilot committees for its organization and the online consultation (April, May, June 2016)
- Drawing up of the new political messages on water and energy for the WG (April-June 2016)
- Participation of Andalucía on behalf of CPMR and IMC in the structured dialogue with EC Commissioner Cañete on energy (June 2016)

## C. Communication, membership and partnerships

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- Further dissemination on the [MarInA-Med web platform](#) and Med Maritime Project outputs including the Policy paper.
- Intermediterranean Commission Web site regular update, support to the CPMR Communication/Newsletter (articles on IMC main activities), work on the MarInA-Med Platform and support to the set-up of the new platform "We are all Mediterranean"
- Contribution to the setting up of the new web platform of CPMR where the IMC site will be integrated and to its new visual image
- Creation and boosting of the CPMR Intermediterranean Commission Twitter Account
- Frequent use of videoconference or skype for meetings (in particular using the new system Gotomeeting, purchased by CPMR)
- Relation with the wide range of external stakeholders and new MoUs (CMI, Med Cities etc.)
- Contacts with new potential members and consolidation the current ones (Morocco, Turkey, Croatia, Tunisia).

### III. UPCOMING INTERMEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION ACTIVITIES (From June 2016 to the end of 2016 and beyond)

#### A. Internal organization and institutional meetings

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- **General Assembly of the IMC** (Venice 30<sup>th</sup> of June and 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2016)
  - Debate and approval of political Messages.
  - Renewal of IMC Mandate (election of the new president and political bureau)
  - Signature of MoU with Med Cities
  - 2 Political sessions on territorial development and cohesion and maritime issues
  - Internal issues (including projects and calendar).
  - back to back meetings of the IMC WG IMP and Transport
- **Plenary meeting of the IMC in the frame of the global CPMR GA** (Azores, 2-4 November 2016)
  - IMC contribution to the Final CPMR declaration
  - Internal issues (including projects and calendar)
  - Participation in CPMR TF: Migrations, Macro-Regions, EUSAIR and WGs
  - Participation of IMC Members in the GA sessions on Transport, Maritime Affairs etc.
- **Political Bureau of the IMC** (Date and place to be defined, last trimester 2016)
  - Debate and approval of political Messages.
  - Internal issues (including projects and calendar).
  - Possible back to back seminar in synergy with projects or external partners or meetings of the IMC WGs (tbc)
- **CPMR Political Bureau** (Gozo, Malta, 9<sup>th</sup> of March 2017. Participation of IMC Presidency/Secretariat)
  - IMC participation in several sessions
  - Back to back seminar tbc

#### B. Key political and technical activities by theme (Events, key projects etc.)

##### 1. Transport & Integrated Maritime Policy

- Next meeting of the IMC Working Group in Venice, back to back with the IMC GA, focus on maritime affairs (30 June 2016)
- Participation and contribution to the CPMR works on maritime investments (mapping, study etc.) in synergy with the follow up of Blue.Invest and DG MARE – forthcoming Maltese EU presidency works (2016-17)
- Synergies with the European Parliament Intergroup SEARICA (specific activities to be confirmed, e.g. seminar in the EU Parliament in 2017)
- Next meetings of the IMC WG and its Task Forces tbc (e.g. Bologna Charter Coordination Board) and other related activities in link with the CPMR Maritime Agenda (MSP, Coastal Defence, Marine Data, Marine industries, Fisheries...)
- Participation in the future conference on transport and islands to be organized by CPMR in November 2016 and in the CPMR intergroup on transport (contribution to the follow-up of the works on accessibility, monitoring of CEF calls, neighbourhood dimension of transports corridors etc.)
- Possible decentralized events of the transport corridors to be organized in the Med Regions (2016 - Eg. the concerning the Med corridor) and monitoring of corridors actions plan affecting the MED, and of MoS/CEF.
- Contribution to the Detailed Implementation Plan for the Motorways of the Sea (2016-2017)
- Monitoring with CPMR General Secretariat of the implementation of the MSP and MSFD Directives and the issues at MED level (e.g. possible joint implementation of the joint project on MSP presented by the SHOM with CPMR on West Med, works connected with Bologna Charter etc.).

- Possible implementation of 2 new horizontal projects presented to the MED INTERREG Programme (on Innovation & Blue Growth and on Environment protection) and conception of new cooperation projects in the frame of other calls / programmes on maritime issues (2016-2017)
- Future actions in the frame of the Western Med initiative and cooperation with the UfM working Group on Blue Economy (UfM WG foreseen for the 12 October in Brussels, Western Med Conference at the end of October 2016)
- Future actions on fisheries (e.g. activation of internal task force for the monitoring of the FEAMP and future of Common Fishery Policy)
- Collaboration with external partners as MED PAN, Ocean Energy, EMBRC on different topics of interest (e.g. Med pan forum at the end of November 2016 with synergies on the socio-economic benefits of ecosystem services and future projects)

## **2. Territorial Cooperation & Macroregional Strategies (including activities on Migration)**

- ➔ Next meeting of the Working Group to be defined back to back with external partners activities (last trimester 2016 or beginning 2017)
- ➔ Monitoring of the EU Neighbourhood policy south and the ENI (2016-2017)
- ➔ Development of capacity building activities in the field of territorial integrated development in the southern rim in cooperation with Platforma and Med Networks: seminar on territorial integrated development to be organized in Sousse in September 2016, manual for capacity building and workshop in 2017, possible synergies with ARLEM project on urban development, debate on a proposal for a possible ENP "territorial hub brunch" (2016-2017).
- ➔ Synergies with EEAS in Brussels and its delegations in the Med (follow up of previous meetings).
- ➔ Draft and implementation of cooperation projects dealing with the topics of the WG and conclusion/follow-up of MED SPRING and Platforma actions concerning the Neighbourhood area. Specific monitoring of ENPI CBC Med, ADRION, IPA/ CBC / MED Programmes and future calls & possible implementation of selected project presented to the first calls (2016-2017) and conception of new projects (2016-2017).
- ➔ Specific contribution to the works on governance of the axis 4 of MED INTERREG and ADRION transnational programmes
- ➔ Contribution to the ARLEM report on Territorial Cooperation (2016) and participation in the meeting of its commission on sustainable territorial development that will take place in Marrakech, back to back with COP22 (9-10 November).
- ➔ Possible set-up of high level meetings of the IMC Political representatives in the frame of the Road Map for Macro-Regional and Sea basin Strategies (tbc. E.g. meeting within SEARICA intergroup and back to back meeting with MED States REPER, "tour of capitals" of a delegation of IMC Representative to have specific talks with EU MED States Ministries)
- ➔ Monitoring of EUSAIR Strategy and its governance (e.g. Technical Steering Committees, participation in meetings to be organized by the EC and the IMC Involved regions, other synergies, participation in the dedicated CPMR Task Force in 2016-2017)
- ➔ Monitoring of the set-up of the maritime initiative for the Western Mediterranean and participation in its future events (e.g. consultation, stakeholder forum etc.)
- ➔ Follow-up of the synergies with ARLEM, UFM, ARCO LATINO, COM MED UCLG, PLATFORMA, CMI, EURORÉGION Pyrénées-Méditerranée, MedCities, MED PAN etc.
- ➔ Participation in the Forum of Local and Regional Authorities of the Med organized by UCLG with MED Networks (End 2016)
- ➔ UfM Med stakeholder forum (23-25 November 2016)
- ➔ Contribution to CPMR TF on Migrations and technical follow-up (e.g. political documents, best practices exchange, work on the detection of needs by the regions in terms of reception infrastructures and measures for integration, reflections on the adaptation to migration issues of ESIF funds and territorial cooperation programmes in the new programming period, events etc.).

### **3. Economic and Social Cohesion**

- Next meeting of the Working Group in Montpellier (tbc, last trimester 2016)
- Continuation of the setting-up of the partnership and the dossier(s) of the project Vasco da Gama MED (to the different programmes and interlocutors. 2016-2017)
- Conception, presentation and implementation of further events and cooperation projects in the frame of the Task force on Sustainable Tourism and Culture (2016-2017, e.g. possible events in the frame of the Med Interreg projects, joint events with Arco Latino)
- Med Economic weeks, Marseille and Barcelona (November 2016)
- Future actions of the WG on Youth mobility, Social Solidarity Economy, Entrepreneurship, Diaspora (tbc e.g. on the base of the results of the Survey and the prospective report on Social Solidarity Economy and step forwards)
- Contribution to the CPMR core group on cohesion and seminars (events planned in 2016)

### **4. Energy & Water**

- Meeting of the WG in Valencia together with an international seminar for exchange of best practices and its Task force on Energy Renovation in Med Buildings (18 October 2016)
- Finalization, approval and dissemination of a political position on Water issues and Energy (last trimester 2016)
- Participation in Water forums by the co-presidency on Water (2016)
- Contribution to the ARLEM report on climate and energy (2016)
- Conception, presentation and implementation of projects on Water/ Energy in the frame of EU cooperation programmes (e.g. possible implementation of the projects already presented, if approved starting by the end of 2016)

### **C. Communication, membership and partnerships**

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- Support the setting up and implementation of the new integrated web platform of the CPMR and use of the new visual image
- Contribution to CPMR joint Newsletter with news regarding IMC
- Boosting of the CRPM Intermediterranean Commission Twitter Account
- Contacts with new potential members and consolidation the current ones (possible missions tbc)
- Relation with the wide range of external stakeholders and possible new MoUs (Med Pan, Unimed etc.)
- Frequent use of videoconference or skype for meetings (in particular using the new system Gotomeeting, purchased by CPMR)